

WHAT WE CLAIM IS

1. Clamping device for clamping work pieces, of the type comprising:

a box-shaped body having a longitudinal axis;

5 a clamping arm pivotally connected to said box-shaped body to rotate between a first and a second angular position; and

an electric control actuator,

said clamping arm being operatively connected to  
10 the control actuator by means of a toggle-lever mechanism and an axially extensible thrust member;

the toggle-lever mechanism comprising a connecting link hinged to a crank member rigidly connected with the clamping arm and to a connecting rod of the axial  
15 thrust member,

the axial thrust member in turn comprising a lead screw operatively engaged with a nut screw coupled with the connecting rod, in which the lead screw extends through the nut screw and into an axial bore of the  
20 connecting rod,

characterised in that the connecting link comprises spaced apart first and second link sections disposed on respective opposite sides of the crank, and the thrust member connecting rod, said first and second  
25 sections of connecting link being connected to the rod

of the thrust member by a transversely extending first hinge pin, and

in that the axial bore in the connecting rod extends along the entire length of the same connecting rod, the lead screw of the thrust member slidably moving along the said axial bore and through a cross-hole in the aforesaid hinge pin.

2. Clamping device according to claim 1, characterised in that the rod of the thrust member comprises of a single connecting element pivotally connected to the connecting link and coupled with the nut screw of the thrust member.

3. Clamping device according to claim 1, characterised in that the connecting rod of the thrust member comprises a first rod portion pivotally connected to the connecting link, and a second rod portion for housing the nut screw, said second rod portion being axially movable in respect to the first rod portion of the connecting rod, and elastically yieldable biasing means being disposed between shoulder surfaces of said first and second portions of the connecting rod.

4. Clamping device according to claim 3, characterised in that a second pin member is extending into axially aligned through holes in said first and

second rod portions of the connecting rod, the through holes of one of said first and second rod portions extending in the axial direction of thrust member of clamping device.

- 5           5. Clamping device according to claim 4, characterised in that said second pin member comprises a cross hole for the passage of the lead screw of the thrust member.